

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, every March, we celebrate women's history and we remember their struggle for justice and equality. It's an occasion on which we honor the brave women who fought to improve and redefine America.

My home state of Rhode Island has known its share of extraordinary women. From Anne Hutchinson, a religious and social activist who challenged male hegemony, to Isabelle Ahearn O'Neill, who became Rhode Island's first woman legislator, women have fought with courage and perseverance for the freedom and equality that are rightfully theirs.

In the last two years alone, we have witnessed the first female Speaker of the House of Representatives and the first major female candidate for the Presidency of the United States. In January, the first action taken by Congress and the President, was to make the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act law. This legislation brings us one step closer to making sure that our female students someday enter our workforce at a wage equal to their male counterparts. At a time when we celebrate women's achievements, we must not, however, lose sight of the work that still lies ahead. In the effort to empower women, we must continue their fight for pay equity, eliminating health disparities, and strengthening domestic violence laws.

As we look towards the challenges we face, we must not forget those that got us to where we are today, and continue to encourage and seek progress.

HONORING HOSCHTON, GEORGIA
FOR SETTING THE RECORD FOR
"THE MOST SCARECROWS IN ONE
LOCATION"

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a great accomplishment that occurred in my district in the town of Hoschton, Georgia.

Hoschton, Georgia is a classic American town in Jackson County that cherishes a model American history. In 1865, the Hosch brothers founded this town on entrepreneurship and the American dream when they built the town's first store. This small town grew on these American ideals and, among other things, built two banks, a cotton gin, a cotton oil mill, and a train depot. In May 2008, the town decided to strive for yet another milestone—to set the world record for "the Most Scarecrows in One Location."

Mayor Bill Copenhaver and life-long resident Robbie Bettis co-chaired the Hoschton Fall Festival Committee that conceived of this challenge. The goal was clear. They needed four thousand scarecrows within the city limits by September 1, 2008. But these great community leaders pulled Hoschton's citizens together and surpassed their goal by 1,441

scarecrows. In less than four months, more than five thousand scarecrows were placed within the city limits. That's more than forty per day.

The Hoschton Fall Festival was then held last year on September 26 and 27 and drew more than 25,000 people who traveled far and wide to view a new World Record. It must also be noted that the other outstanding members of the Hoschton Fall Festival Committee were: Chuck Cope, Chris Hoffman, Theresa Kenerly, Leah Nelson, Nancy Rhodes, John Schulte, Richard Shepherd, Kristen Smith, Lisa Stovall, Ray Vaughn, Tom Walden, and Mark Williams. Furthermore, this great feat received state, national, and international media attention.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great American town. Its accomplishments show all of America what can be done when a dedicated community works together to meet, and in this case surpass, a stated goal.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of the FY2009 Omnibus.

Division I: Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: Department of Transportation, Technical Corrections

Legal Name of Entity: County of Morris

Address of Requesting Entity: 30 Schuyler Place, Morristown, New Jersey 07940

Description of Request: \$800,000 was authorized under section 1702 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (P.L. 109-59), to divert traffic from the steep grade at Schooley's Mountain Road and add roadway, construct a bridge over the Raritan River, and replace existing culverts. The technical correction will modify the current language of "Construct Long Valley Bypass," with "Planning, design, engineering, environmental analysis, acquisition of rights-of-way, and construction for the Long Valley Bypass." This is a technical correction to an existing authorization and has no budgetary impact.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1400

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, on March 9, 2009, I introduced H.R. 1400, a bill designed to further combat and reduce underage smoking. Specifically, this measure would make cigarettes and certain other tobacco products nonmailable through the United States Postal Service.

This bill is necessary because the United States Postal Service is being used to facilitate the delivery of cigarettes that were pur-

chased illegally on the Internet by underage minors. Unfortunately, those existing safeguards designed to prevent minors from purchasing cigarettes online have proven ineffective. For example, although 80 percent of cigarette vendor websites allege that transactions with minors will not be completed, there is little in place to enforce this policy. In fact, one study found that only seven percent of online vendors require driver's license information, while more than 50 percent simply require customers to verify their age by selecting an "I am over 18 years old" option. These and other safeguards clearly did not deter the 50,000 minors estimated, based on U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, to have purchased cigarettes online in 2003. As Internet commerce expands, the number of persons (including minors) purchasing cigarettes online is expected to increase dramatically.

The problem H.R. 1400 is designed to address is illustrated by the disturbing results from Internet "sting" operations conducted by over 15 states in recent years. In New York State, 24 out of 26 websites sold cigarettes to minors as young as nine years old. Moreover, in 2005, a group of Upstate New York teenagers in my Congressional District conducted a similar experiment in collaboration with law enforcement. Half of their orders were successfully delivered, and, unfortunately, 90 percent were delivered via the United States Postal Service.

In addition to helping curb the usage of tobacco products among minors, H.R. 1400 would end tax evasions that hurt our States and local governments. These revenues are not insignificant. Rather, annual tax revenues estimated at \$1.4 billion are being lost; in 2005, New York State alone lost \$400 million.

Madam Speaker, Congress has the opportunity to combat underage tobacco use and tax evasion by enacting H.R. 1400. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to work with me to enact this important measure.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING
WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Entrepreneur Award winner is Lisa Kent of Hillsborough. She is the founder and president of the Luminations Group, a strategy and innovation firm.

The company began as a nonprofit enterprise that helped Hillsborough retailers and businesses develop marketing plans and materials. Today, the company includes eight female principals with more than 100 years of